

Natanyahu says he met Arafat

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in an apparent sign of the times, said Monday he had met PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, prompting heavy denials from his office. Addressing Jewish-American youths, Netanyahu made the reference to Arafat in a speech against Arab tactics to combat Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel. "They cooked up a big, big lie," he said. "Believe me I have experience with the big lies. I met Arafat in Geneva the other week. They say lies, they can't believe... no problem." A foreign ministry spokesman denied that Netanyahu had met Arafat when both men addressed a special U.N. Security Council session in Geneva on May 25 which debated a flare-up of violence in the Israeli-occupied territories. He could not immediately explain Netanyahu's remark, but said: "It would be impossible for official members of this government to meet with the PLO." The Israeli delegation to the U.N. boycotted Arafat's address to the Security Council.

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Cairo renovates Arab League

CAIRO (R) — Overpopulated Cairo, preparing to host its first Arab summit for 20 years in November, is planning a major facelift of its central square, Egyptian television reported. A news report said a bus terminal used by hundreds of thousands every day would be moved from crowded Tahrir Square next to the Arab League headquarters and replaced by gardens. The television showed dozens of workers renovating the old headquarters. The league moved to Tunis in 1979 after Egypt was suspended for entering a separate treaty with Israel but is due to return to Cairo in September. Leaders agreed at an Arab summit in Baghdad in May to hold their next meeting in Cairo. Arab leaders last gathered in Cairo in September 1970, a day before President Gamal Abdul Nasser died.

Greek guerrillas attack U.S. firm

ATHENS (R) — The Greek guerrilla group November 17 attacked a U.S. company's offices in Athens early Monday with a 50-year-old rocket launcher stolen from a museum and a modern missile stolen from an army depot, police said. There were no casualties in the attack on the Procter and Gamble offices. Police said the assault appeared to be a test run because the attackers had removed the explosive warhead of the missile, which caused only a small hole in the building. "We are now waiting for the real hit," a senior policeman told Reuters. "Although there is no claim of responsibility, we are certain November 17 is behind the attack. They are the only ones who had the means to fit a modern projectile to a 50-year-old bazooka," a senior policeman told Reuters.

'Hookahs can transmit AIDS virus'

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian doctor has warned that smoking traditional hookahs or water-pipes could lead to AIDS. In an interview in Monday's Al Gomhouria newspaper, Imran Salam, said several diseases, including the killer virus AIDS, could be caught from a water-pipe. "The pipes, known as hookahs, are a popular smoking device shared by several people at traditional coffee shops. The newspaper said hookahs had become a fad in Egypt after a number of hotels started offering them as a tourist attraction."

Warsaw Pact defence chiefs to meet

EAST-BERLIN (R) — Defence ministers of the seven Warsaw Pact states will gather near East Berlin Wednesday for a two-day regular meeting that, according to East Germany, may be the alliance's last "military" conference. The official East German news agency quoted a defence and disarmament ministry statement as saying the meeting would take place from June 13 to 15 in Strasbourg, east of the capital. In an interview with the Berliner Morgenpost newspaper at the weekend, East German Defence Minister Rainer Eppelmann said the pact's military structure would be abolished by the end of the year. "Next week's meeting of Warsaw Pact defence ministers in Strasbourg will be the last of its kind," he added.

England, Ireland draw 1-1

CAGLIARI, Sardinia (AP) — Kevin Sheedy scored with a low drive with 15 minutes remaining to lift Ireland to a 1-1 draw with World Cup Group F match. England led 1-0 on an eighth-minute goal from striker Gary Lineker, but Ireland fought back impressively in the second half. The game was played at a frenetic pace throughout, with both teams struggling to control the ball. England and Ireland are grouped with the Netherlands and Egypt in the first round of the 24-nation tournament. Their teams meet in Pakistan Tuesday night.

Palestinian shot dead in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian and captured at least 11 people in a gunfight in the occupied West Bank city of Nablus Monday, residents said.

Palestinians identified the dead man as 18-year-old Jamal Sabagh and said he was a leader of the revolutionary security apparatus, a paramilitary group affiliated with the Patach movement.

Israeli military officials confirmed a Palestinian man was killed; three were wounded and eight were captured unharmed. A statement said an army patrol encountered a group of people in the city of Nablus who turned out to be wanted by the army.

The army did not say if there was an exchange of fire but reported that a pistol, ammunition and knives were found in possession of the Arabs.

The army imposed a curfew on the 120,000 residents in the city and adjacent refugee camps. Residents said some fugitives had escaped and the army was still searching for them.

Palestinians said the "revolutionary security apparatus" was a pseudo-police force of uprising activists who tracked and interrogated suspected Arab collaborators.

But unlike the Black Panthers, another Patach group which operated last year in Nablus, the security apparatus did not kill.

"An apparently Jewish passenger

suspects. Instead they publicised their identities and urged people to boycott suspected informants. The army said the group was linked to killing suspected collaborators, interrogating others and attacking Israeli forces.

The Nablus cabash, home to some 30,000 residents, has been a stronghold of the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Palestinian "strike forces," sometimes carrying automatic weapons, roam its dark alleys, enforcing the directives of the revolt's clandestine leadership.

Israeli troops have raided the neighbourhood numerous times, killing a number of activists and arresting others.

The last raid took place in March where Israeli forces shot dead two Palestinians and arrested two.

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Palestinians have killed at least 676 Palestinians since the outbreak of the revolt in December 1987. Unknown assailants have killed some 211 Arabs, most as suspected informants, and 46 Jews have died.

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ger beat an Arab taxi driver in the face with a hammer on Hillel Street," a police statement said after the attack at noon. "The driver was taken to hospital."

Arab radio quoted witness as saying the attacker was not a passenger but approached the parked taxi with a hammer and

assaulted the driver without saying a word.

The radio said the assailant escaped.

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Ruling Tunisian party sweeps local elections

TUNIS (R) — The ruling Tunisian RCD party won control of all but one of the 245 municipal councils in local government elections which were boycotted by the opposition Sunday.

The official results published Monday showed that the Constitutional Democratic Assembly (RCD) won 3,750 council seats while the remaining 34 went to independents, most of them defectors from the RCD.

Officials said the turnout was between 80 and 90 per cent indicating that the opposition's call for a boycott was largely ignored.

Turnout was low in constituencies where the RCD competed with independents. In some areas where it was unopposed it was as high as over 90 per cent.

The sole council not carried by the RCD was in the coastal village of Chebba where independents won control with the support of workers in the fishing industry.

The only incidents reported

were the withdrawal of five lists of independents who alleged fraudulent practices by RCD candidates in the localities of Taikela, Al-Hama, Maktar, Kelliba and Lettaouia.

The five withdrew Sunday during the vote and a sixth withdrew Saturday before voting started in the locality of Rades near Tunis.

In Monastir, birthplace of former President Habib Bourguiba, three RCD dissidents were elected but the ruling party still has a majority.

Six legal opposition parties and the Nahda Islamic fundamentalist movement, which is not officially authorised, called for a boycott of the elections.

They said that despite changes in the electoral law introduced by President Zine Abidine Ibn Ali

there were not enough guarantees that the poll would be democratic, mainly because the RCD controls the administration which organised the elections.

They also said their boycott was a protest against delays in carrying out democratic reforms promised by Ibn Ali since he ousted Bourguiba in November 1987.

The RCD won all 141 seats in the National Assembly in legislative elections in April last year. At the time the opposition alleged there were widespread irregularities.

The government billed the legislative and local polls as the first multi-party elections in Tunisia since independence 32 years ago. The official results mean that Tunisia remains under one-party rule.

Government ministers who actively campaigned on behalf of RCD candidates said the boycott by opposition groups was a tactic to hide their weakness.

The only incidents reported

61.5 per cent of electorate vote for Kuwaiti assembly

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti officials said Monday that 61.5 per cent of the electorate voted Sunday to choose a new interim assembly, despite a call by pro-democracy activists for a boycott.

Diplomats who saw the poll as a test of government support in its tussle with the campaigners described the turnout as a "respectable" figure.

But a spokesman for the opposition group said independent estimates put turnout at slightly more than 50 per cent. He said it was 60-65 per cent in outlying regions and about 45 per cent in urban areas.

"The government must take this into consideration," he told Reuters.

The activists, led by 30 former deputies, demand the return of parliament dissolved by the emir in 1986. They dismiss his proposed interim assembly as unconstitutional.

investments make it among the world's wealthiest.

In closed sessions it will review past parliamentary experiments and make non-binding recommendations to the government ahead of elections due to be held in 1994 for a new Majlis Al Umma (parliament).

The emir, at the helm of this Gulf country since 1977, said Kuwait was the target of a foreign conspiracy when he dissolved the assembly at the height of the 1980-88 Iraq-Iran war raging nearby.

Kuwait's 62,000-strong electorate was asked to choose 50 deputies from among 348 candidates. The emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, will appoint 25 others.

The assembly will consider the future of democracy in the small Gulf state, whose oil and foreign

tional and powerless.

The turnout for the last elections to parliament in February 1985 was about 80 per cent. Diplomats said the 61.5 per cent response Sunday was a respectable figure, considering the boycott call and the fact that the assembly was virtually a consultative body.

They said a high turnout in bedouin areas outside Kuwait City and its suburbs helped offset a modest response in urban areas considered to be opposition strongholds.

The Kuwait News Agency's list of winners include one — Osman Ali Al-Nagdi — with as few as 150 votes. Salman Hameid Al-Aziz's 1,266 votes were the highest won by a single candidate.

The overwhelming majority of the 348 candidates were political unknowns.

On Saturday, Saudi Arabia said Thailand had established that a foreign party was involved in the Bangkok attacks and urged the authorities there to identify it.

"The kingdom repeats its denunciation of all kinds and shapes of international terrorism, which is behind these ugly crimes... and reserves its right to protect its nationals and punish the criminals," Al Yom said.

Saudi Arabia said Sunday Thai Muslims would be treated like all others during the annual pilgrimage to Mecca next month.

Thai officials said Friday that Riyadh had scrapped plans to provide transport for Thai pilgrims after reports that Thai workers sponsored by Iran in the

Affairs ministry said they had been given military training.

"This is not true," the Saudi Press Agency quoted an official source as saying. "Thai pilgrims are treated just like their brothers from other Muslim states."

The Thai officials said Riyadh had cancelled plans to send eight planes to Thailand to carry Thais to the pilgrimage, but would allow Thais to travel on other airlines.

Iran, which has no diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia, has said it will boycott the pilgrimage for the third year in a row unless Riyadh triples its quota of 45,000 pilgrims and allows demonstrations denouncing the United States and Israel.

Both Syria and Iraq complained their agriculture and power supplies were hurt by the diversion.

Ankara says it let through enough water to more than make up for the shortfall during the cut-off but suggested the three countries cooperate in modernising irrigation methods to make better use of the water.

Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi last week accused Ankara of not taking the water issue seriously and said it could affect cooperation between the two countries.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry responded Sunday by saying the issue was intentionally being presented to Arab public opinion as a problem.

Ankara has invited ministers from Iraq and Syria to meet later this month to discuss the dispute. Iraq has said it would attend but Syria has not yet replied, the Foreign Ministry sources said.

A ministry official said Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, who met President Turgut Ozal on a one-day visit Sunday, might offer his country's mediation in the dispute.

But a presidential spokesman said Monday this was not the case.

Tesfaye said Ethiopia might seek assurances from Israel that the Falashas would not be resettled in the occupied West Bank if they did go to Israel.

This particular point is quite possible. We have not as yet discussed the details (of any exodus) how many and how they go," he said. "We are also looking at the implications of how our neighbours would look at it."

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Home News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1990 3

UNRWA seeks urgent aid of \$5m

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Vienna-based headquarters of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has launched an appeal to the international community for an extra \$5 million to enable the agency to continue its emergency operations in Lebanon and the Israeli-occupied Arab territories for the remaining part of 1990.

The appeal was made by UNRWA Commissioner-General Giorgio Giacometti, who called for \$5 million in special contributions to finance the construction of a 200-bed hospital in the Gaza Strip.

"The hospital in Gaza is needed to meet the acute shortage of hospital beds in the strip which is inhabited by 650,000 residents and refugees," Giacometti said in his annual report presented to representatives of 25 nations and the European Community as well as UNRWA's major donors and the Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees.

Jordan is represented at the meeting by Dr. Ahmad Qatama, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Department of

Palestine Affairs.

The week-long meeting, which started last Wednesday, was scheduled to review UNRWA's various activities in its fields of operations, emergency programmes and UNRWA's annual budget.

Donor nations attending the meeting expressed support for the agency and stressed the need for continued financial aid to help it carry out its humanitarian services to the refugees.

The meeting paid tribute to UNRWA's staff in providing assistance to the Palestinian refugees and many participants expressed concern over Israel's violations of UNRWA's mandate including detention of agency staff.

UNRWA is a subsidiary organization of the U.N. General Assembly which began operations in May 1950. It employs international and Palestinian staff in its drive to provide services to the refugees.

Jordan is one of a 10-nation commission helping the agency's commissioner general to carry out his duties.



UNRWA provides health services to 650,000 refugees in Gaza Strip

ACC ministers of energy to discuss cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ministers of Energy and Electricity in the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will meet in Amman Sunday to discuss cooperation among their countries in energy and electricity.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Thabet Al Taha said that the ministerial meeting will be preceded by a parley of experts and technicians from the concerned ministries in Egypt, Iraq, Yemen and Jordan to work out practical programmes for cooperation.

The technicians will prepare the agenda for their ministers.

meeting," Taha said.

Topics on the agenda, he said, will include the prospect of manufacturing spare parts for power stations and power distribution networks. The agenda will also include a plan for linking the national grids of the four countries and an exchange of expertise and information on power systems with a view to achieving full integration in energy and power generation.

Egypt and Jordan are already in the process of linking their national grids through a project which could encompass the other two ACC members and probably other Arab states.



Iraqi music ensemble to perform in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Music Conservatory, in cooperation with the Iraqi Department of Musical Arts, presents the Baghdad Chamber Ensemble in a concert at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:30 p.m., next Saturday (16 June 1990).

The programme includes works by Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714-1788), Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), Johann Wenzel

Kalliwoda (1801-1866), Henryk Wieniawski (1835-1880), Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844-1908), Aram Khachaturian (1903-1978) and Iraqi composer Agnis Bashir.

The Baghdad Chamber Ensemble was established in 1987 and has since given more than 40 concerts in the Iraqi capital. It played at the third Babylon International Festival. Its repertoire

includes about 150 compositions covering a wide period in the history of Western music, ranging from baroque to the twentieth century.

The ensemble includes: Agnis Bashir (piano), Leith Abdul Ghani (oboe), Aram Zarzur (violin), Mohammad Ali Abbas (violin and viola), Samir Mohammad Jawad (violin), Ali Hussein Musa (cello), Fikri Bashir (mandolin).

Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary-General Sami Sunna opened the seminar.

QAFHS to examine Maan children

AMMAN (J.T.) — Queen Alia Foundation for Hearing and Speech (QAFHS) plans to conduct a general survey in the government of Maan on Saturday to determine the hearing and speech faculty among children aged one to six years, according to the foundation's President Hanan Tongan.

She said that examination of children by the foundation's specialists will be free of charge, and the needy children will be supplied with hearing aids also free of charge.

Seminar on frauds in banking opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day symposium on frauds and violations in banking, held at the Arab Institute for Banking Studies (AIBS) Monday reviewed a working paper focusing on one of four case-studies to be examined by the delegates from around the Arab World.

The paper, presented by Saad Al Rukh, a Kuwaiti economist, focused attention on the case of

Touqan made the statement during a visit by several ambassadors from Arab and foreign countries to the QAFHS premises where they inspected services offered to the handicapped children.

The foundation, established in 1978, offers services to children and adults alike and provides assistance to the needy handicapped persons. Many of the patients come from other Arab countries. In addition, the foundation has been providing training to local staff.

Produce packing seminar opens

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Agricultural Marketing Development Project of the Agricultural Marketing Organization (AMO) will sponsor a free seminar on Wednesday, June 13, for agricultural producers and exporters. The program will feature two lecture presentations by Dr. Devon Zagory, and run from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel. Dr. Zagory, formerly with the University of California at Davis, is a professional consultant specializing in fresh produce packing.

Dr. Zagory will speak about "Principles and Practices of Fresh Produce Packaging," and on "Packing Techniques for Jordan's (USAID).

Shamir secures approval

(Continued from page 1)

Monday to the Knesset. Party affiliations are in parentheses.

Prime Minister, Yitzhak Shamir (Likud); Deputy prime minister and foreign minister, David Levy (Likud); Deputy prime minister and industry and trade minister, Moshe Nissim (Likud); Defence, Moshe Arens (Likud); Finance, Yitzhak Modai (Likud-liberal faction); Housing, Ariel Sharon (Likud); Justice, Dan Meridor (Likud); Interior, Arye Dery (Shas); Police, Roni Milo (Likud); Economy and planning, David Migen (Likud); Communications, Rafael Pinhasi (Shas); Transportation, Moshe Kastav (Likud); Tourism, Gideon Patai (Likud); Health, Ehud Olmert (Likud); Education, Zevulun Hammer (National Religious Party); Religious Affairs Avner Shai (NRP); Science and energy, Yuval Neeman (Tehiya); Agriculture, Rafael Eitan (Tzomet); Immigrant absorption, Yitzhak Peretz (independent-breakaway from Shas).

According to a statement, merchants will be allowed to import dates, sage and thyme. The statement said that to encourage exports of crops the ministry will reduce to a minimum previous routine measures and will supply merchants with annual import/export permits.

The bulletin said limited quantities of garlic, lemons, apricots, plums, potatoes, melons and cactuses will be allowed into Jordan from the occupied Arab territories over the coming two months, according to a quarterly bulletin issued Monday by Minister of Agriculture Suleiman Arabyat.

The bulletin said limited quantities of garlic, lemons, apricots, plums, potatoes, melons and cactuses will be allowed into Jordan from the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip because they are needed by the local markets.

The Agricultural Marketing

"According to its composition and guidelines, there are no feelings of peace, no chance of change, no reason for hope. It is a government of sadness... built on the right, with supporters of annexation, massive (Jewish) settlement and even a referendum for transfer (expansion of Arabs)," he said.

Addressing the Knesset, Shamir attacked the United States and rejected land-for-peace.

Shamir charged Washington with encouraging "terrorism" against Israel through its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"The root of our differences is first and foremost over the U.S. administration's relations to the PLO and its dialogue with it, which in our eyes has struck a heavy blow at stability and the chances of peace," Shamir told parliament.

Council tries to bring Kuwait back

CAEU discusses transfer of base

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Arab ministerial meeting which was held in Cairo last week discussed the prospect of transferring the headquarters of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) from Amman to Cairo, but a decision on the matter has been postponed pending consultations between the Jordanian and Egyptian governments, according to CEAU Secretary-General Hassen Ibrahim.

The CEAU was originally based in Cairo before it was moved to Amman following Egypt's signing of a separate peace treaty with Israel 11 years ago.

According to Ibrahim, the ministerial meeting discussed the withdrawal of Kuwait from the CEAU and it was decided that Egyptian Minister of State for International Cooperation Mauro Makramah should exert his good offices to persuade the Kuwaiti government to rescind its earlier decision.

Last March Ibrahim issued a statement here appealing to Kuwait to remain a council member, and pledged to introduce all the changes as suggested by the Kuwaiti government as a condition for retaining its membership.

To meet the Kuwait demands, the CEAU cut the salaries of its

staff by up to 25 per cent and reduced the number of employees by 25 per cent.

The CEAU is in financial difficulties resulting from the failure of several Arab states to pay their commitments to the council's budget, and this failure has obstructed the council's work and delayed important services that would have helped bring about Arab economic integration, according to Ibrahim.

"The question of lack of funds was dwelt on during the ministerial meeting in Cairo," Ibrahim said in a statement upon returning to Amman Monday.

According to Ibrahim, failure by Arab governments to pay their financial commitments deprived the CEAU employees of salaries for more than five months now.

At the meeting Ibrahim issued a fervent appeal to the Arab countries to help the CEAU carry on with its duties.

"The ministerial meeting heard an economic report on the CEAU's activities in the first half of this year and reviewed world economic issues and their impact on the Arab economy," Ibrahim said.

He said that the next ministerial meeting will be held in Amman in the first week of December 1990.

Police nab swindlers

By Ahmad Kreishan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN —

The Jordanian authorities have arrested a gang of six swindlers who have been in the habit of posing as agents raising funds for the National Jordanian Committee for Supporting the Palestinian Uprising.

Police sources said that the six, who also been involved in cases of embezzlement, forgery and posing as policemen, had raised as much as JD 200,000 in Jordan and the Gulf states.

The police were tipped by a citizen who suspected the behaviour of one of the group, who, at the time, was trying to raise funds and issue receipts for sums collected from worshippers who were leaving a mosque in Qweiqi south east of Amman, according to police sources.

They said that when questioned the man admitted that he had collected JD 66 from the worshippers that day and that he had been in the business with five others who were immediately apprehended.

The man, identified by the police as MYF, and his group, had printed receipt books which they carried along to issue receipts for people donating for the Palestinian intifada, a task shouldered by the national committee.

He also said that a local printing press had printed for them the receipt books and that their operations were conducted in different parts of the country.

MYF also admitted that the group members had posed as journalists interviewing people being treated in hospital from wounds sustained in confrontation with the Israeli forces; others had toured Gulf states under the pretext of raising funds for the intifada and for the Palestinian students living in Jordan.

They also said that they had interviewed the students and people in refugee camps in Jordan.

According to these sources, the police are still investigating the case before referring the culprits to the concerned courts for trial.

to the concerned courts for trial.

Another police report Monday revealed that two thieves have been arrested following a spate of robberies and house-breaking incidents in which jewellery and cash were reported stolen.

A police spokesman said that owners of a number of houses in Jabal Al Taj, Rashedan Bridge, Ashrafieh and Ras Al Ain had reported to the police that thieves had broken open the doors of their homes and made off with bracelets, rings, and other jewellery and cash.

In all the cases, the police said, a sharp tool was used to break open the doors.

In the robberies which took place over the past four months, following a number of clues, the police were able to trace the culprit who was found to have an accomplice. They both admitted to committing the robberies after carefully watching the homes of their victims to ensure that owners were out before forcing their way in.

One of the two men said that he had sold the stolen jewellery to local goldsmiths with the help of his wife, who had put the gold pieces on pretending they were hers to deceive the buyers.

Names of the thieves were withheld.

Reports about the robberies and the swindlers came as preparations were completed for the opening of a three-day symposium here Tuesday entitled "Crime and Society."

The symposium, organised by the Higher Council for Combating Crime and the Public Security Department (PSD), will tackle such questions as thefts, robberies, dangerous drugs, motives for suicide and juvenile delinquency among others.

Member of the Higher Council, Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazal, said that the symposium is aimed at enlisted public help for the police force to combat crimes.

Several working papers will be reviewed by the participants who represent various public and private Jordanian institutions.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings depicting the Jordanian environment by Adel Al Sharra, Mohammad Assad and Hani Khazaleh at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by Rafiq Al Lasham at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "La revolution: 200 ans apres" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ "Amman '90" photo exhibition at Amman Municipality public library.

LECTURES

- ★ Lecture entitled "Importance of Early Teaching of Sign Language to Parents of Deaf Children" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 10:00 a.m.
- ★ Lecture, in French, entitled "La geothermie: origine et utilisation" by Tourneys and Demange at the French Cultural Centre — 6:00 p.m.

FILMS

- ★ A German video entitled "Die DDR im Umbruch" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.
- ★ An English-subtitled German film entitled "Frühlingsinfonie" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

TURKISH FILM WEEK

- ★ Feature film entitled "Any Other Woman" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

Jordan Times

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An urgent task

JUDGING from the performance of Jordanian exporters in the first five months of this year, signs are good that in 1990 the Kingdom would register almost double its export figure for 1989. It is no wishful thinking or pipedreaming, officials assure us, pointing out that their projections of JD 700 million of exports this year are based on the figure of total exports until May — JD 300 million. Of course, it is good news and let us hope that these figures are realised and reflected in the accounts for 1990.

What is thought-provoking is the fact that there are numerous hurdles that stand in the way of a potential investor who is genuinely interested in setting up a small- or medium-scale export-oriented industry. The sheer bureaucracy and red tape involved in getting a project off the ground sometimes more than discourages a potential investor. We have been hearing about amendments to laws and added incentives to investments, but the problem is these amendments and incentives appear not to have been translated into practical action.

For all practical purposes, Jordan, which imports consumer goods worth over a billion dollars every year, offers a perfectly healthy climate for investments in small-scale industries producing consumer items. Such industries will not only be much-needed import-substituting industries, but also export-oriented if handled in the right way. One would think that it should be relatively easy for any investor with a careful eye on the market to launch an industry with no untoward haphazard procedures and discouraging prerequisites. That is not to say that procedures and prerequisites should be abandoned altogether, leading to unhealthy competition and sub-standard quality products in the local market; regulations should be there, but the superceding factor should be the consideration that the Kingdom stands in need of the implementation of every means to be self-reliant if it is to wrestle successfully with its foreign debts and commitments.

The government has already taken major steps towards simplifying the bureaucracy involved in obtaining necessary permission and operational licences for industries by drafting new legislation. Now, the ball is in the court of parliament, which should waste no time in debating the law and adopting whatever action is needed for it to be implemented, including incorporating amendments if needed to further make the investment and project implementation process easier.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

AL RA'I Mouday paid tribute to the Jordanian Armed Forces for its relentless efforts to defend the Arab homeland in the face of aggression. The paper said the Jordanian Armed Forces was born with the outbreak of the Great Arab Revolt earlier this century and since then it has been the source of pride for the Arab Nation because it was involved in confronting colonial powers and now continues to fend off attacks by the enemies of the Arab Nation. The Jordanian people are proud and have confidence in the Jordanian Armed Forces which continues to offer sacrifice for the Arab Nation and continues to bolster the defence of the Arab countries, the paper said. By celebrating the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day in Jordan the people here recall the huge sacrifices and the fallen martyrs since the start of the Great Arab Revolt led by the Hashemite family, the paper added. It said that in celebrating the day Jordanians pay tribute to the Armed Forces and recognise its endeavours to the nation.

NOW THAT the United States has emerged as the sole superpower in the world and since it is openly hostile to the Arabs and their legitimate rights, said a columnist in Al Ra'i, there is no alternative for the Arabs but to pay the Americans in their own coin. Bader Abdil Haq said frankly speaking the Arabs have to display their total hostility to the United States because it is indeed the enemy that protects Israel and constitutes the means for its survival in our land. The writer said that the Arabs can display hostility to the United States by boycotting American goods, a measure that can be taken officially or privately by all citizens. We understand Israel's hostile attitude towards the Arabs because it simply occupies their lands, but the reason behind Washington's open enmity to the Arab Nation in general and the Palestinians in particular is difficult to understand, and therefore one can counter the American position through boycotting American goods, the writer added. There is no need to open Arab homes, towns and streets for the Americans now that they are openly fighting on the side of Israel and killing all prospects for peace, he said.

SAWT AL SHAAB echoed King Hussein's warnings to the Arabs that Jordan can no longer stand the enemy onslaught and is by no means able to fend off new aggression on the Arab Nation. The paper said that with the new government in Israel bent on stifling the intifada and expanding Israel's borders through the absorption of more Jews, the Arab Nation in general and Jordan in particular are facing a new threat to their existence. The paper recalled the King's words that Israel has now succeeded in dealing a devastating blow to all peace bids and is intent on pursuing aggression in our land. It said that one cannot evade danger by concealing his head in the sand, and therefore there is urgent need for the Arabs to wake up to the realities and try to defend the Arab Order and Arab security.

THE VIEW FROM FOURTH CIRCLE

Mr. Shamir, frozen beans and the Palestine issue

WE HAVE just witnessed a series of unfortunate events which seem to be pushing the Middle East region back into a familiar cycle of emotionalism and militarism. Those events include the killing of scores of Palestinians by Israelis (working individually or through the armed forces), the American veto of the U.N. Security Council resolution calling for a fact-finding mission to Palestine, the attempted operation by Palestinian commandos in Tel Aviv, and the formation of a hardline right-wing Israeli government headed by that seasoned killer Yitzhak Shamir.

The moment is fraught with danger, perhaps even potential catastrophe. Therefore, it is particularly important today that the Arab World does not succumb to the kind of emotional rage which has often hurt us more than it has helped us in the past. Not only are the events of the region intensifying pressures which may promote short-term extremism, fanaticism and militarism on both sides. We are also dealing in a wider international psychological, emotional and political environment which has both good and bad news for the Palestinians, Arabs and Muslims.

The Arab objective should not be to strut around like roosters, only to end up acting like turkeys. Rather, this is the moment for calm and calculated analysis. We need to appreciate clearly the factors at play in the region and around the world, and develop a strategy which exploits our strong points and counters the weak ones.

The wider international context is a problem. In the Western World, particularly among the moral basketcases who comprise much of the United States Congress, the talk these days is often about the proliferation of missiles and weapons of mass destruction among Arab countries, particularly Iraq, Libya and Syria — the message being that only white folks like Americans, Israelis and South Africans are allowed to possess nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, while the rest of us dark folks are supposed to bow and scrape, shuffle a lot and ("hey, Momma, pass the watermelon...") thank the Lord that we are alive.

The spectre of anti-Semitism is hovering over Europe and North America once again. As Israel cannot provide credible legal or moral arguments to justify its continued killing, beating, deporting, and general disenchantment of the Palestinians, the spectre of anti-Semitism becomes an effective means of diverting international attention away from the essential injustice which Zionists, Jews, Israelis and fellow-travellers have inflicted on the Palestinians in Palestine. Instead of reaching back into the rich moral reservoir of Jewish ethics and working with other victims of discrimination to rid the world of inequity, Israel and Zionism stress the narrow perspective of self-interest. Therefore, we hear: Save the Jews. Let Soviet Jews emigrate in large numbers to Israel. Who cares what

happens to the Palestinians. Settling hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews in Palestine is the only thing that matters. Palestinian rights be damned. And the money for all this comes from Washington.

Simultaneously, the Israeli-American combine is once again trying to elevate Islam to the status of the Greatest Immediate Threat to White Folks, and Western Civilisation. With the adversarial menace of communism waning, and the PLO maintaining its peace strategy, Israel needs to generate a new bogie man, in order to maintain its self-promoted role as the protector of Western interests and the White Man's Civilisation in this part of the world.

The worst scenario is that we are heading into an inevitable war in which both sides will use weapons of mass destruction. Israel will attack Arab capitals with nuclear weapons in order to kill Arabs by the million, while the Arabs will use chemical and biological weapons to kill as many Israelis as possible. For the Jews, it will be another, largely self-inflicted holocaust — because the Jews did not respond when the Arabs held out the hand of coexistence and equal rights for all. For the Arabs, it will be the lessons of history writ large and in blood — just over 800 years after Saladin (Saladin) threw the Crusaders out of Jerusalem, the modern invaders and colonisers of Palestine once again shall have been thrown out of the land by force, with great loss of life on both sides.

This worst scenario is not very attractive, and should be avoided, if possible. But it may be getting more and more difficult to avoid what may be the logical conclusion of the Zionist experiment in intransigence and self-glorying exclusivity. If Zionists insist on perpetuating the fantasy of the Jews as God's chosen people, enjoying moral and political rights above and beyond those of the rest of humankind, then they should not be surprised if their self-aggrandizement ends up in a ball of messianic fire.

The new Israeli government headed by Yitzhak Shamir promises to crush the intifada, and putting Ariel Sharon in charge of settlements and new housing promises to bring the Palestinian-Zionist confrontation in Palestine to a head. The likelihood is that the blindered defiance of the new Israeli government will push the region to new heights of extremism and violence, which will intensify international recognition of the need to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict through achieving Palestinian rights of national self-determination.

Our most difficult challenge today is to maintain our diplomatic offensive in the face of rising Israeli extremism and intransigence. We must bring to our struggle today the physical courage, moral fortitude and political acumen of the man who stood before the tanks in Tiananmen Square, the children who were not afraid of policemen in Soweto, and the American men and women who

defied the dogs and the bullets as they marched for civil rights in the American South in the 1950s and 1960s.

If Judaism is reaching the zenith of its historical distortion and its moral disfiguration in the form of an Israeli government characterised by men who kill, we should respond to this tragedy by refusing to be swallowed up in the frenzy of Zionist intransigence, militarism and violence. Let them kill. Let us reaffirm the principles of life and justice.

Translated into diplomacy, this means that the Palestinians and the Arabs are entering perhaps the most trying period since the policy of offering coexistence to Israel was first formally articulated in 1982. Signs from North America, Europe and the rest of the world indicate that there is growing impatience with Israeli intransigence. This impatience will increase with the new government of Shamir and Co. The intifada will intensify and perhaps change its character. Israel will be more and more isolated.

The people of Israel will have to respond to these developments, making it clear once and for all whether they wish to negotiate a just and reasonable peace with the Palestinians and the other Arabs, or whether they wish to fight it out to the end. They will have to declare whether the advent of Shamir and Co. is the swansong and the last gasp of the killer mentality, or whether it is the start of a grotesque and bloody new era in Jewish history. The Arab role in this dynamic is to emphasise to the Israelis, and to Jewish people and Zionists everywhere, that Israel must make this choice. The dictates of Arab morality and the punctilios of diplomacy both require that we persevere with our peace strategy at this delicate moment, so that the burden of stalemate and human suffering falls squarely on Israel's shoulders. The Palestinian/Arab peace strategy is not a bag of frozen beans with an expiration date of two years from production. It is the diplomatic and moral high point of a historic struggle that spans this entire century. In the early years of the century, the Palestinians were degraded by the world. In these closing years of the century, the Palestinians are increasingly the focus of international attention, concern and activism. Mr. Shamir will make this all the more evident.

Yet, we also need to make it clear to Israel that our patience is not unlimited. The Israelis must choose between war and peace. They cannot have perpetual stalemate, and eternal subjugation of the Palestinians. In this context, the U.S.-PLO dialogue, the American veto of the U.N. resolution, and whether or not the PLO clearly denounces the attempted commando raid near Tel Aviv become less strident, less significant, and less lasting episodes. They are the noise that distracts us from the larger mission of assuring justice for all in Palestine. If morally crazed men in Israel or their politically dazed friends in Washington insist on making distracting noises, let them swallow in the consequences of their actions.

LETTERS

Different sides, same coin

To the Editor:

ON JULY 2, 1776, nearly 214 years ago, the struggling congress of a British colony voted for independence. Two days later, this same congress published the Declaration of Independence. It was written by Thomas Jefferson and addressed "to the opinions of mankind."

one of the many grievances of this new American Congress was "taxation without representation," of which one result was the famed Boston Tea Party where cargoes of tea were confiscated, destroyed, or turned back to England.

Generations of Americans have been brought up revering the heroes of the American War of Independence from Britain.

What brands one man a hero and another a terrorist? Today, those same people who once shed their noble blood for democracy have hardened their hearts to a struggle more noble and valiant than ever fought by the heroes of the American revolution. The intifada is an internal war fought by each and every Palestinian within the occupied territories. Each city, town and family has contributed to and has been struck by this impossible war. Many of the victims are children who either die, are tortured, are mutilated and are permanently disfigured either mentally, physically or both by war of no mercy.

A large percentage of Americans view Palestinians in general as "terrorists." Some at first, for a time, almost sympathetic with some of the Israeli crimes against the Palestinian civilian population, have by now become "compassion fatigued."

Meanwhile, Israeli aggression continues unabated. How ironic that the very people who are supposed to be paragons of democracy have such a blinded ONE eye towards the daily tragedy enacted against the entire Palestinian population but when a group of Palestinian guerrillas who are freedom fighters, tries to penetrate Israel from without, such as the sea raid of June 2, Americans become an Argus (the one hundred-eyed monster of Greek legend).

With the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe, the Arabs at first thought that the prevailing winds were democratic and that some of the winds would shift to Israel and miraculously favour those Palestinians who have suffered so much.

Instead, the Eastern European countries have consolidated with Western European countries forming a bloc against the Arab World. At the same time, the Soviet Union permits a continual flow of Jews into the occupied territories at the expense of again the Palestinian people.

Now, the Baltic republics are hailed by Americans as a people fighting for their freedom from the Soviet Union. How much difference is there between the Baltics and the rest of the Soviet Union? Are these people truly suppressed and denied all personal and collective liberties like the Palestinians under Israeli rule?

Instead, Israel is still defined by most countries as being democratic while the Palestinians under occupation are dying for the very meaning of democracy. In practice, Israel is the most racist country in the world.

Once more the Americans used their veto at the U.N. this time regarding a dispatch of a fact-finding mission to the occupied territories. As long as the Israelis have moral support of and financial aid from the Americans, they will continue their vicious campaign to exterminate the Palestinian people. The Americans will remain Argus-eyed to those Palestinians who struggle for their revolution of freedom, forgetting that not long ago they once fought (because of considerable less oppressions) for their own independence.

American and Soviet ties are becoming more cordial as seen in Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to America. The long era of the "cold war" is almost disappearing. But, are the Palestinians any better off than before? In fact, what bleak prospects do Jordan and all the Arab states face as the influx of Soviet Jews continues, enabling the Zionist dream of "greater Israel" to become in fact, a stark reality. We are finding ourselves more and more sandwiched between the Soviet Union and America, different sides of the same coin. Where now is the conscience of mankind?

Aquino poised to signal her plans

By Jeremy Clift
Reuter

MANILA — In the clearest signal so far that she may run for another term, President Corazon Aquino will announce the formation of a new political movement Tuesday, Philippine Independence Day.

Press Secretary Thomas Gomez said it was "premature" to say the 57-year-old widow was launching her own political party, and denied that it meant Aquino would stand for re-election in 1992.

But few political commentators believed him.

"The common perception is that this 'movement' will eventually metamorphose into a political party from which Mrs. Aquino will launch her bid for re-election in 1992," the independent Philippine daily Inquirer said in an editorial on Sunday.

The movement is designed to rekindle the broadly based support that swept Aquino to office in a 1986 "people power" revolt that ended the 20-year authoritarian rule of the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

But it could put her on a direct collision course with leaders of the present political coalition backing her government, led by her younger brother, Congressman Jose Cojuangco.

"I have nothing to say. You can not get anything from me right now," Cojuangco told reporters.

Gomez said disappointment with the existing political parties prompted Aquino to form the movement.

Four years after Aquino was catapulted to power in the popular revolt, the country of 60 million people is split by political in-fighting, threatened by Communist guerrillas, rocked by repeated rumours of another coup

attempt by army rebels and plagued by corruption.

The Aquino government is in the middle of negotiations on the future of major U.S. military bases in the country. The American bases provide thousands of Filipinos families with livelihoods, but also provide nationalists with a rallying point for their claim that the former colonial power has too much influence in their country.

Economic gains have been pared by a persistent electric power shortage and squabbles over major foreign investment projects, while at least half the country lives below the government's official poverty line.

Aquino has repeatedly denied that she will stand for a fresh term in 1992, describing herself as a transition president whose task was to restore democracy after the Marcos dictatorship and put the economy back on track.

If she stood again, she would be the front runner among a host of possible candidates, who could include her estranged cousin, wealthy industrialist and former Marcos associate Eduardo Cojuangco.

The new movement will be known by the Filipino name "Katipunan" or union, which has strong nationalistic echoes back to the fight against Spanish colonial rule at the end of the last century.

Suggestions that Aquino may seek re-election, even if untrue, are likely to fuel resentment among reformist groups in the armed forces who see the former housewife as a weak leader and want her removed.

Aquino has survived six coup attempts by right-wing rebels within the military in the past four years. The armed forces have been on full alert because of widespread rumours of a possible new putsch this month...

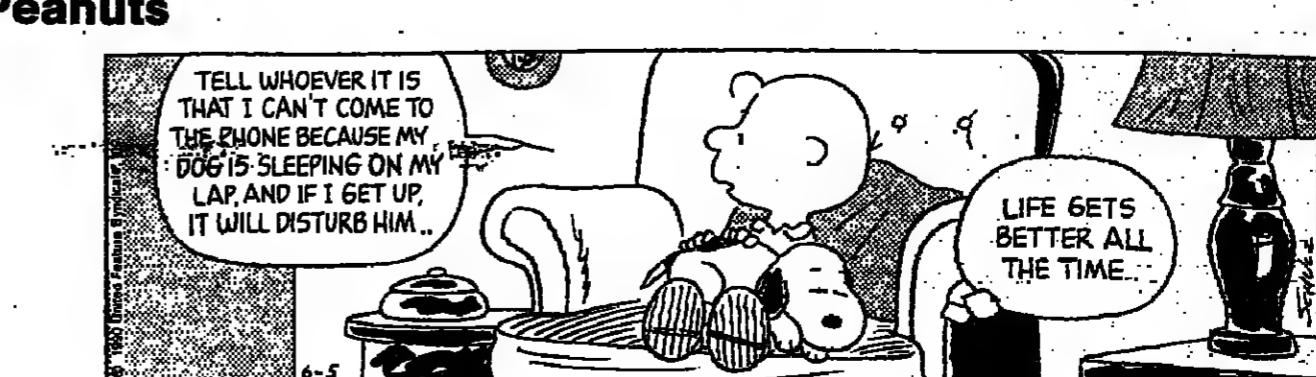
Mutt'n Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Features

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1990 5

AFP, in the eyes of its new chairman: Independent, balanced and diversified

By Miriam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hard work and dedication pays off! Not always. But for one dedicated hard-working journalist, 33 years of reporting paid off last January, when he was appointed chairman of the board and general manager, or PDG as the French call it, of the organisation to which he had dedicated the better part of his life.

The man chasing the news is veteran journalist Claude Moisy, the organisation, the offspring of the world's oldest international news agency, Agence France Presse, otherwise known simply as AFP.

After a disagreement between AFP board members, as to who would be the next PDG came to a head, Moisy was nominated and elected. For the second time in its long history a journalist, not a bureaucrat was put at the helm of AFP.

Last week, Moisy chaired an annual meeting of regional directors of AFP offices in the Middle Eastern region. Despite his busy schedule, he found time to talk with the Jordan Times on his experiences and agency's work.

Moisy seems well aware that there are disgruntled parties in the developing world who feel they are not getting their "fair share" of coverage in the international media."

By definition the lack of coverage would be due to the failure of the big three international news agencies, (Reuters, Associated Press and AFP), in covering issues on the "periphery of hot spots for the Western hemisphere." But the coverage allotted to issues in the developing world by AFP, Moisy feels, has been balanced in terms of actual coverage given. "AFP tailors its various news services to the different areas in the world it caters to," he says.

Moisy, who spent 10 years between North and South America after having worked for AFP in North Africa, Asia and London among other places, is very sensitive to the issue of "which countries or areas get more coverage," in the news.

"AFP is not geared to publication in French newspapers alone. We are an international agency and as such it is our responsibility to cover news as and where it happens," he maintains.

While not willing to discuss the role of the "three big" news agencies, and their role in the new world information order, he is well aware of his organisation's role in the development of national news agencies world wide.

"There is as much cooperation as competition with national news agencies. We attempt to give assistance wherever possible and in that sense we are doing our best to explore new possibilities of cooperation," Moisy says.

"There is much more news trading going on than meets the eye."

In areas where AFP has local language distribution, news trading is more frequent than elsewhere and thus cooperation is naturally stronger.

AFP provides technical help to many of the world's national news agencies and according to Moisy trains people as well.

"Our service covers almost every country. Through regional, if not country, offices, the AFP service is distributed in 6 languages: French, English, Spanish, German, Arabic and Portuguese."

"The various services are tailored to the different areas," explains Moisy. "It's a matter of catering to clients in different geographical locations which have different local, regional and international priorities."

According to the AFP chairman, the autonomous status of his organisation has allowed the agency to be relatively free of the pressures that national news agencies have to operate under.

"As an autonomous international news agency we are free to report world events as they are. After all a responsible news service cannot cheat in dealing with world events."

The independence of the AFP did not always exist and was earned after hard lessons in relatively unbiased reporting were learned.

Haves was the name of the original French news agency

when it was created in 1835. The agency, a private enterprise, was considered "the" French news agency up until the end of World War II.

After the war Haves was nationalised by the French government after having been accused of cooperating with the pro-Nazi Vichy government. As it began its operation as a nationalised news agency, it went under the name of Agence France Presse, the name it carries to date.

At the time, during the questionable involvement of the French government in Algeria and Indochina in particular, AFP began its internationalisation.

The "national agency" lasted until 1957 because, as Moisy puts it, "a news service run by a government is not credible."

Since then AFP has been an autonomous body, run by commercial law and a board of trustees which consists mostly of French newspaper editors.

Although Moisy does not doubt that the big three news agencies will someday be joined by a fourth, and possibly a fifth news agency to view for the world news market, that time has not yet come.

Of TASS, the official Soviet news organ which has offices around the world, Moisy says, "TASS has a good chance of becoming a big independent news agency. That time has not yet come, however, because it is not yet recognised as autonomous from the state."

He believes that a combined news agency of a united Germany may also grow to more international stature than the one that presently exists.

Japan, which has one of the largest daily circulations of any single newspaper worldwide (10 million copies sold per day), is still not one of the countries that is expected to establish an international news agency, mainly because of a certain language barrier, Moisy thinks.

The Japanese have one of the largest and most competitive newspaper markets in the world. They are avid readers, and one particular newspaper sells more copies daily in Japan than any paper in the Arab

World sells across the board."

One of the main topics of concern to Moisy and all newspaper men in the 1990's is the visual media threat to what is known as the printed media.

On the agenda of all the local and regional meetings held by members of AFP staff, whether the participants are those working for one of the nine AFP Middle East offices or elsewhere, is the costly adaptation of the newspaper industry as the twenty-first century draws closer to us.

"Our international photo service, which we launched five years ago, is doing very well, but there are other aspects which deal with the ever increasing visual aspect of the news to which we must pay attention," Moisy says.

"There is no doubt about it, the electronic-visual media have reduced the growth of the printed media almost everywhere. I believe that in the long run the printed media will eventually diminish in importance," Moisy says, half heartedly, that one of the few exceptions may be Germany.

While he admits that AFP has toyed with the concept of diversifying its outlet for news through visual news coverage, he says the time has not yet come to make the enormous investment it would take to do that.

"We are investing in some visual news techniques. First it was the photo service. Now it is graphic designs, which are increasingly used to tell a story. Soon we will have a graphic design service available to our Arabic language service," Moisy says.

Will any new offices be set up in the Middle East any time in the near future? "Not for now," and although the Middle East is "on" the periphery of the Western hemisphere at the moment AFP, like so many other world organisations, is busy opening new offices in Moscow, Berlin, Bucharest and Budapest.

Meanwhile, news around the world continues to happen and Moisy boards yet another plane because even as a PDG he must continue to make sure that his news agency is there to report events as they happen.

Acupuncture is their last hope

By Servet Yildirim
Reuter

version, on television Channel 7, stems in large part from the appeal of Tongchai McIntyre, one of Thailand's top pop singers.

The handsome son of a Thai mother and Scottish father puts in a soulful performance.

Many Thais say the hero of the series is an effective antidote to the hard-edged "Ugly Japanese" image in Thailand, where the Japanese are represented by many for their aggressive business dealings and alleged attempts to gain an economic stranglehold on the country.

One Thai who has criticised aspects of Japanese behaviour is Mechai Viravaidya, a leading development expert and former actor who portrayed Kobori in the first adaptation in 1969.

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you look at Kobori's character, this type of Japanese has yet to be born," Mechai said in an interview. "With Kobori's notorious abuse of the heart being more important than flag and country, he would have been put in jail—or at least given a low-ranking job in a Japanese corporation."

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Vatican vs demons A battle of faith in Turin

By Stephen R. Wilson
Associated Press

of official exorcists.

Two events in 1988 further contributed to the city's satanic image.

First, the Pope spoke of the devil during a visit to Turin, saying: "from the history of salvation, we know that where there are saints there is also another person who presents himself not by his name but the name of others. He is called the prince of this world, the demon."

Then, a month later, Turin hosted a weeklong conference on demonology that bitterly divided local politicians, churchmen and academics.

Church officials deny Turin has a greater problem with the devil than any other cities, pointing out that Milan tops Italy with eight exorcists of its own. Milan has a population of 1.5 million, compared with Turin's 1 million.

It's also the home of the shroud of Turin, which some believe was the cloth with which Joseph of Arimathea wrapped the body of Jesus Christ after his crucifixion.

Turin has a darker reputation as a haven for Satan and his acolytes.

There is no proof, of course. But what is certain is that the city has six official exorcists, an underground core of devil worshippers and thousands of people in the occult.

Specialists in the occult maintain that Turin forms of two "magic" triangles representing good and evil.

Along with Prague, Czechoslovakia, and Lyon, France, the city is reputedly a centre of "white magic," a positive force. Turin is also said to join London and San Francisco as a stronghold of "black magic," which is considered harmful or diabolic.

"Turin has always been a place of great spiritual and magical ferment," says Giuditta Dembich, a journalist and author of the book "Torino: Città Magica" (Turin: Magic City). "It has some of the qualities of places like Mecca, Jerusalem and Lourdes."

The city first attracted widespread notoriety as Devil's playground four years ago when Turin's archbishop at the time, Cardinal Anastasio Ballestrero, appointed six official exorcists.

Exorcism, the process of casting out demons, is an accepted practice in the Roman Catholic church. Pope John Paul II has frequently stated that the devil is a pervasive reality in today's world.

"Our bodies have more than 12,000 sensitive points. The only thing acupuncture does is to arouse them with pins and direct the body to repair the malfunctioning part," Sezen said.

But Professor Cankat Tolunay of Ankara University's medical school said that "acupuncture has been exaggerated in Turkey. It has a scientific basis but it is only a treatment method. Its pain-relieving aspect has been proved but it is not superior to modern medicine."

A satisfied patient, Murat Canbolat, said that "thanks to acupuncture, I lost 37 kilograms in two months. Now when I get sick, I prefer to go to an acupuncture doctor."

Another patient, Hidayet Kaya, said: "I have had acupuncture to give up smoking. But I think it only had a psychological effect on me, not a physical one."

"I haven't smoked for 12 days but I still miss cigarettes," he said, fidgeting with his key ring.

An hour-long acupuncture session to stop smoking costs 165,000 lira (\$65) in Turkey where the minimum monthly wage is about 225,000 lira (\$89). A visit to the family doctor costs 60,000 lira (\$23).

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British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd sent a message to Arafat through the British ambassador to Iraq, the AP said.

In December 1988, Arafat denied terrorism and recognised Israel, opening the way for the U.S.-PLO dialogue to begin.

Since then there have been regular meetings between PLO officials and the U.S. ambassador to Tunisia, Robert Pelletreau. The last meeting was held Saturday between Pelletreau and PLO Representative Hakam Baloui.

The PLO executive committee, which held a two-day meeting in

PLO condemns attacks on civilians

(Continued from page 1)

said last week that he was considering calling off the dialogue after Arafat failed to condemn the attack near Tel Aviv.

Swedish involvement in efforts to avoid a break in the dialogue was reported from Baghdad, where a special envoy of Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Anderson met with Arafat three times this week. The envoy, Mathias Mossberg, arrived in the Iraqi capital at the weekend and delivered a message from Anderson to the PLO chairman. Andersson helped initiate the U.S.-PLO dialogue in December 1988.

U.S. President George Bush

Fiction erases memories of reality in Thailand

By Dennis D. Gray
The Associated Press

have been writing the producers, pleading for a change to the tragic ending. Others have proposed marriage to the show's stars.

The series is based on still enormously popular novel written by Vimol Siripaboon in the late 1960s. It tells of a Japanese officer who falls in love with a Thai college undergraduate during World War II.

Although Kobori carries his army sword even into the bedroom, he is willing to do anything for his love, even neglect some of his soldierly duties. Angsumalin, the Thai woman, hides her own strong feelings for him out of that patriotism until the moment Kobori dies in an allied bombing raid.

This already have seen the novel adapted twice on the screen and twice for television. The popularity of the latest

version, on television Channel 7, stems in large part from the appeal of Tongchai McIntyre, one of Thailand's top pop singers.

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Economy

OPEC's May output not much changed from April

NICOSIA (R) — Crude oil output by the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) stood at 23.68 million barrels per day (bpd) in May, not much changed from 23.98 million in April, the oil industry newsletter Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) estimated.

OPEC had agreed last month to cut output by almost 1.5 million barrels from April levels in May-June period to help sagging oil prices recover.

The newsletter also said Saudi Arabia was still committed to OPEC's Geneva accord to keep output within its quota despite sharp price cuts programmed for July.

The cuts were seen by the market operators as a sign that Saudi Arabia was planning to sell more oil and had caused spot oil market prices to ease last week.

"MEES is authoritatively informed that Saudi Arabia remains committed to its pledge to keep production within quota limits," the Nicosia-based oil industry newsletter said.

It said the general motive behind Saudi Arabia's price cuts for July was to position the pricing in a competitive range so as to ensure no further erosion of their market share below their quota level.

OPEC's crude output ceiling for the first half of 1990 is 22.086 million bpd but excessive production by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has pushed prices down around \$6 per barrel since January.

MEES said Saudi Arabia's deliveries of crude sank in May to

5.25 million bpd including its share of the neutral zone, below its 5.38 million OPEC quota and below 5.85 million bpd estimated in April, as its customers over-reacted when the kingdom asked them to cut lifting voluntarily in May-June period.

The Nicosia-based oil industry newsletter estimated Kuwait's output including its share of the neutral zone in May at 1.9 million bpd, unchanged from April.

"However, MEES is assured by top Kuwaiti officials that, despite May time lag on its production cut, average Kuwaiti output in June will probably be within the 1.5 million bpd quota level," the newsletter said.

At OPEC's Geneva meeting last month, Kuwait had pledged to lower its output to its 1.5 million bpd quota level.

MEES also said Abu Dhabi, the biggest oil producer in the UAE, has lowered output in May by 50,000 bpd to 1.62 million bpd from 1.67 million April and a further 100,000 bpd reduction is programmed for June.

Allowing 420,000 bpd for Dubai, MEES put the total (UAE) output at 2.050 million bpd in May, down from 2.1 million in April. It had pledged to cut 200,000 bpd of its crude output in May-June period to 1.9 million bpd.

MEES estimated Iran's output at 3.43 million bpd, higher than its 3.14 million bpd OPEC quota and 3.01 million estimated for April.

The newsletter put Iraq at 3.15 million bpd, almost at its 3.14 million quota level, but higher than the 3.05 million April estimate.

Future shock

Low oil prices will prompt increasing demand and decreasing production and lead to a sharp rise in oil prices in the future, Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said Monday.

The current price level is therefore not the optimum level it should be to maintain supply and demand balance," he told on oil and money conference here.

"A logical and fair base price must be worked out for oil and that price should be adjusted on the basis of yearly or even short-term inflation and currency fluctuations," he said.

Oil prices fell a dollar last week mainly due to reports of continued high OPEC production.

Middle East crudes are trading at around \$14 a barrel, some \$4 below OPEC's target.

Aqazadeh said a gradual price increase would slow down the acceleration in demand and encourage producers to invest in improving the condition of their oil reserves, launching new exploration efforts and turning semi-proven reserves into fully proven ones.

"In that case, the industrialised world would be able to rest assured that its future energy needs can be met in time," he said.

"If we want to avoid a (oil price) shock after 1995, at least the consumers should have dialogue with these countries."

"We have left behind a turbulent decade in international oil markets and should concentrate our efforts identifying factors capable of maintaining oil market stability in the 1990s," Aqazadeh said.

"Energy demand will increase from 105 million barrels per day (bpd) oil equivalent now, to 114 million bpd.

Aqazadeh said 1990 is the fifth consecutive year demand for oil has increased. He said demand would continue to increase by 2.0 per cent per year during the 1990s unless world economic conditions altered dramatically.

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BASEBALL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Following are the results of major league baseball games played Sunday:

American League

Cleveland Indians	4	Boston Red Sox	0
Oakland Athletics	3	Kansas City Royals	2
New York Yankees	5	Baltimore Orioles	2
Detroit Tigers	4	Seattle Mariners	3
Chicago White Sox	5	Minnesota Twins	3
Toronto Blue Jays	13	Milwaukee Brewers	5
Texas Rangers	2	California Angels	1

National League

New York Nets	8	Pittsburgh Pirates	3
Chicago Cubs	7	Philadelphia Phillies	3
San Francisco Giants	9	Atlanta Braves	3
St. Louis Cardinals	5	Montreal Expos	3
Houston Astros	4	Cincinnati Reds	2
San Diego Padres	2	Los Angeles Dodgers	1 (10)

American League Eastern Division

	Won	Lost	Winning percentage	Games back
Boston Red Sox	24	56	—	—
Toronto Blue Jays	31	26	.552	½
Baltimore Orioles	32	29	.491	4
Milwaukee Brewers	28	28	.481	4½
Detroit Tigers	26	32	.458	6
Cleveland Indians	27	30	.444	6½
New York Yankees	24	35	.352	11½

Western Division

	Won	Lost	Winning percentage	Games back
Oakland Athletics	17	69	—	—
Chicago White Sox	38	19	.642	3
Minnesota Twins	34	26	.536	8½
California Angels	30	29	.500	10½
Seattle Mariners	29	31	.475	12
Texas Rangers	28	33	.421	15
Kansas City Royals	24	33	.400	16

National League Eastern Division

	Won	Lost	Winning percentage	Games back
Pittsburgh Pirates	22	607	—	—
Montreal Expos	34	25	.554	3
Philadelphia Phillies	31	26	.519	5
New York Mets	28	27	.491	6½
St. Louis Cardinals	26	32	.439	9½
Chicago Cubs	25	32	.439	9½

Western Division

	Won	Lost	Winning percentage	Games back
Cincinnati Reds	18	654	—	—
San Diego Padres	34	25	.545	3½
Los Angeles Dodgers	30	29	.491	8½
San Francisco Giants	28	30	.474	9½
Houston Astros	27	34	.404	13½
Atlanta Braves	23	32	.396	13½

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K762 ♠A3 ♠QJ95 ♠J72 The bidding has proceeded: ♠K654 ♠J43 ♠Q8 ♠K53 North East South West The bidding has proceeded: 1 ♠ Dbl ? What action do you take? 1 ♠ Dbl ? What action do you take?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K3 ♠AQ95 ♠QJ95 ♠K182 The bidding has proceeded: ♠K652 ♠J6 ♠KJ83 ♠K73 North East South West 1 ♠ Dbl ? What action do you take?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K762 ♠A3 ♠QJ95 ♠Q72 The bidding has proceeded: ♠K652 ♠J3 ♠KJ83 ♠K73 North East South West 1 ♠ Dbl ? What action do you take?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K762 ♠A3 ♠QJ95 ♠Q72 The bidding has proceeded: ♠K652 ♠J3 ♠KJ83 ♠K73 North East South West 1 ♠ Dbl ? What action do you take?

Dutch fear Egyptian surprise

PALERMO (R) — The Netherlands open their World Cup campaign against outsiders Egypt Tuesday confident of victory but alive to the dangers of taking their opponents too lightly.

The European champions are expected to cruise past the Egyptians but Dutch coach Leo Eenhuizen is determined to avoid complacency among his players and is using Cameroon's shock win over Argentina to reinforce his message.

"We talk of smaller soccer countries but these are just countries we have less contact with. All World Cup nations have learnt to defend and are well-prepared physically," Eenhuizen said.

"You can't say a match is easy before you've actually played it," he added.

Eenhuizen has confidence in a team featuring outstanding players such as Frank Rijkaard and Marco Van Basten, which many believe can lift the cup now that captain Ruud Gullit has returned after a serious knee injury.

Egypt's strength is a defense which conceded just two goals in eight qualifying matches, with goalkeeper Ahmad Shabani highly-rated. Scoring goals has proved more of a problem, with

Egypt finding the target just seven times in their 12 war-up games.

But Al Gohari promised his team would not sit back and try to frustrate the Dutch with a blanket defense.

"We hope to get the balance right between defense and attack and play good football," he said. His only injury worry is striker Hossam Hassan, whose twin brother Ibrahim plays right-back. Hassan was withdrawn from training Saturday with a leg strain but says he will be fit.

The Dutch have selection problems in midfield where Erwin Koeman is struggling for fitness after a knee operation and Jan Wouters and Gerald Vanenburg both have ankle strains, with Wouters looking the more doubtful of the two.

Richard Witschge will come in if Koeman is declared unfit while Vanenburg will probably return to partner Gulit and Rijkaard in a four-man midfield if he recovers and Wouters is ruled out.

Korea considers Belgium easiest prey

VERONA (R) — Underdogs South Korea need a win against Belgium Tuesday to have any realistic chance of qualifying in a group that the toughest in the World Cup first round.

"If we want to go through, we have to win at least one match — the one against Belgium," South Korea's coach Lee Hoe-Tak said. Belgium will be thinking the same of South Korea.

Lee said he was aiming for a draw in one of the two other first-round Group E matches against Uruguay and Spain. That should be enough to take the Asians to the second round for the first time in three World Cup attempts.

They (South Korea) are difficult opponents. In fact, there are no easy opponents any more," Thy said.

Thy, who also led Belgium during their 1982 and 1986 campaigns, still has to solve the problem of his central defence. He has tried out several combinations in three friendly matches over the past two weeks but has yet to find the best solution.

Lee too has seen gaps in the heart of the Belgian defence and

has remodelled his formation to take full advantage.

In the new-look line-up, winger Byung-Joo, nicknamed "the bullet" for his speed and ferocious shooting, will lead

the samba on street corners, set off fireworks, honk car horns and throw confetti from windows as soon as the referee blew the final whistle.

Lee may also welcome the expected absence from Thy's line-up of menacing striker Jan Ceulemans, Belgium's leading player for the past decade but slower on the ball recently and dogged by a back problem.

But the Belgian coach is not the only one with worries. Lee will have to rely on his second goalkeeper Choi In-Yong after a 1.91-metre tall Kim Pung-Joo injured his right knee in a friendly match with Spartak Moscow recently. He may be fit again until the last opening-round match against Uruguay on June 21.

Matthaeus earns accolade from West German coach

ERBA, Italy (Agencies) — Lothar Matthaeus, swashbuckling hero of West Germany's rousing World Cup entry, earned the supreme accolade from team chief Franz Beckenbauer after their 4-1 win over Yugoslavia.

"When he plays like that there is no better player in the whole world. He has the abilities for it," Beckenbauer, himself one of the greatest players ever to grace the game, said Monday.

Matthaeus stamped the force of his personality on Sunday's game with two important goals, the first breaking a goalless deadlock and the second — a scorching shot at the end of a searing solo charge — killing off an incipient Yugoslav challenge after the interval.

Beckenbauer, as cool and measured in his management as he was on the pitch as a player, is not a man for exaggerated compliments and Matthaeus treasured the tribute after his 75th "jubilee" appearance in an international career which began a decade ago this week.

Matthaeus, still only 29, has matured from the teenage tearaway of those early days into a formidable all-round player who could lead West Germany to their first World Cup triumph since "Kaiser Franz" held sway in 1974.

He also stressed the team spirit among the whole squad and not just the 11 on the pitch — a contrast to past tournaments in

his experience. Pilloried in the past for allegedly failing when it really mattered, he recalled two finals involving his former clubs Borussia Mönchengladbach and Bayern Munich when he had played miserably."

"That's past. No I look forward. I was the scapegoat but that's the team which loses and the team which wins. Yesterday was not the victory of Lothar Matthaeus but the victory of the team," he added.

He said he used to get distracted by unimportant matters, trying to do too much, but after words with Beckenbauer four years ago he had begun to concentrate more on what mattered.

"Two years ago quite a bit changed. I went to Milan to play in what in my opinion is the strongest league in the world. This needed a new mentality. I had to introduce myself to a new world," he said.

"This would not have been possible without my family. Then I had a key experience with the premature birth of our second daughter," he noted. "It makes you think a little differently. Of course it's sad when you lose a match, but then it was a question of life and death.

He wears the number 10 shirt

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Turkish Film

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

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Tel: 699238

HOLLYWOOD AIR FORCE

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 10:30

NATO, Warsaw Pact call off hostilities; seek new identities

TURNBERRY, Scotland (AP) — The NATO and the Warsaw Pact military alliances have begun searching for new identities in an era of dramatically reduced tensions.

Last week, both blocs formally acknowledged the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe that have reduced the need for the massive amounts of armaments the two alliances built up over 40 years.

In Moscow, leaders of the seven nations making up the Warsaw Pact issued a statement calling for a dramatic reconstruction of their alliance, which had until last year been largely an instrument of Soviet domination.

The foreign ministers of the 16 NATO members, meeting in Turnberry on the Western coast of Scotland, were quick to respond to the Warsaw Pact's declaration.

"We are encouraged by the positive spirit conveyed in this declaration and in particular by the readiness... for constructive cooperation," they said.

The Warsaw Pact, which was formed in 1955 as a response to NATO, has been in virtual col-

lapse since the political upheavals in Eastern Europe late last year.

One by one, Moscow's once-staunch allies ousted corrupt Communist regimes that had held power for decades.

Czechoslovakia and Hungary have demanded the withdrawal of thousands of Red Army troops stationed on their soil. The pull-out is already under way.

The Warsaw Pact's declaration "was just a ratification of the implosion that has taken place," said Hans Binnendijk, director of studies at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

"It has been clear for some months that the military wing, which was about all there was, just wasn't functional," he said.

The meeting of NATO foreign ministers was one of a series of high-level talks on how to transform NATO into political organisation. President George Bush and other NATO leaders will gather in London in early July to hold further talks.

But military officials have already moved to lower their guard.

On July 1, NATO will reduce the readiness of many air and ground forces in Western Europe.

The United States and the Soviet Union have agreed, as part of an arms control deal, to reduce their troops to 195,000 on each side in Central Europe. The United States will retain some 30,000 additional soldiers in Britain and southern Europe.

To meet those levels, the Soviet Union would have to pull 370,000 soldiers out of the area. The United States would have to withdraw a total of 80,000 troops.

NATO allies hopes the Kremlin will consent to a unified Germany's membership in a restructured NATO. Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has so far opposed such a plan.

The United States has come up with a nine-point list of reassurances to help reduce Soviet fears of a hostile Germany. They include a promise not to station NATO forces in the current territory of East Germany.

Bulgarian Socialists expected to win in elections

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — The two political groups that broke the grip of Communist rule on Czechoslovakia are beginning the search for possible coalition partners after winning the first free election in 44 years.

Official results showed that Civic Forum and Public Against Violence — the Czech and Slovak sister organisations that led November's pro-democracy revolution — had captured the most seats in a new federal parliament.

The Communists had a surprising strong finish in second.

Civic Forum and its sister party won 169 of the 300 contested seats in the bicameral parliament, but fell short of the three-fifths majority needed to make key constitutional and economic reforms necessary to fulfill the goals of the revolution.

The Civic Forum, founded by President Vaclav Havel, had said before the election Friday and Saturday that it would seek a coalition government.

"We can say that the longing for freedom, democracy and a different order prevailed in this election," Havel told state television just after the results were announced on national television.

The Communists finished in second place with 48 seats. The Christian Democrats, who had

been favoured for second place, finished third with 40 seats.

Both Civic Forum and the Christian Democrats have ruled out a coalition with the Communists.

Three parties representing separatist, regional interests were the only other groups to clear the 5 per cent minimum vote required in either the Czech or Slovak republic to get votes. The seat totals for all the parties may change slightly under the complex system of allocating votes.

Turnout among the 11.2 million electors was 96.7 per cent, the highest percentage in Central or Eastern Europe's recent slate of elections.

Civic Forum and Public Against Violence were likely to seek out the three-party Christian Democratic Alliance despite campaign acrimony generated by charges that a key Christian Democrat had been an informer for the hated Communist secret police.

The long years of Communist rule overshadowed the result.

Havel, a former dissident playwright who was a reluctant candidate for office before the revolution, now seems virtually certain to be elected for a two-year term by the new parliament, which has 40 days to decide.

Havel's party seeks coalition partners

COLUMN

Panama's president weds law student

PANAMA CITY (R) — Guillermo Endara, the 54-year-old president of Panama, married a 23-year-old law student in a modest Catholic ceremony amid heavy security. "It is a very happy moment," Endara said as hundreds of people cheered him and his bride, Ana Mae Diaz, outside the colonial-era Metropolitan Cathedral. Endara, an affable, portly widower whose first wife died a year ago, met Diaz while staging a hunger strike last September to protest the rule of General Manuel Noriega. Noriega was deposed in the December U.S. invasion that brought Endara to power. After the 90-minute ceremony, Endara and his bride walked around the plaza in front of the cathedral in a crush of guards to greet ecstatic well-wishers before heading two blocks west to the 19th-century presidential palace on Panama Bay for a reception. There, the couple, accompanied by family members and friends, appeared on a balcony. The bride tossed her wedding bouquet into a crowd of several hundred people shouting, "Endara, we are with you." Endara broke with Panamanian tradition in marrying Diaz, who comes from a more modest background than he and whose father is of Chinese descent.

World's oldest man dies at age of 112

LONDON (R) — The world's oldest man, 112-year-old Welshman John Evans, who worked as a miner for 60 years, has died, his family said. He was declared the world's oldest man by the Guinness Book of Records last December. "John went very peacefully, in his chair beside his bed. He had been a little unwell for a few days," his daughter-in-law Betty Evans said. Evans was born in 1877, 14 years before the death of Queen Victoria, and began working in south Wales mines at the age of 13. He was forced to retire when he was 73. He made medical history when at 106, he became the oldest person to be fitted with a heart pacemaker.

He died unless Newfoundland

Wells

said he would announce

Monday

whether to put a

weekend agreement signed by all other provinces to a referendum or a vote in his legislature.

The agreement, reached Saturday night after seven grinding days of talks, empowers Quebec to guard its culture and language against assimilation into English-speaking Canada.

It dies unless Newfoundland

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